

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN SA 05721 171732Z
ACTION ARA-02

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P R 171641Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY
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UNCLAS SAN SALVADOR 5721

E.O. 11652: N/A

UNCLAS. DECEMBER 17 (PASS TO VOA) INFLUENTIAL, HIGH CIRCULATION
LA PRENSA GRAFICA DECEMBER 17 PUBLISHED A LEAD EDITORIAL WHICH
AGAIN REITERATED ITS OPPOSITION TO OPEC OIL PRICE INCREASE.
THE DAILY SAID THAT "THE WHOLE WORLD IS HOPEFUL THE INCREASE
WILL BE LOW" AND IT ADDED THAT "THE TRUCH OF THE MATTER IS THAT
OPEC HAS DECLARED AN OPEN WAR AGAINST THE ECONOMY OF EVERY
COUNTRY IN THE WORLD."

IT CONCLUDED ON A PESSIMISTIC NOTE STATING "THERE IS NO
GUARANTEE OPEC WILL NOT AGAIN DECREE ANOTHER OIL PRICE INCREASE
IN THE FUTURE" TO THE DETRIMENT ESPECIALLY OF DEVELOPING
COUNTRIES.

SAID LA PRENSA GRAFICA (SPANISH EXCERPTS):

"LA ESPERANZA DEL MUNDO EN ESTOS MOMENTOS ES QUE LA OPEP NO
TRATE DE ENGULLIRSE, DE TRAGARSE DE UN SOLO... A LA ECONOMIA
MUNDIAL. LAS AGENCIAS DE NOTICIAS DICEN QUE LOS EXPERTOS CREEN
QUE LA OPEP FINALMENTE ACORDARA UN AUMENTO DEL 10 POR CIENTO
SOBRE EL PRECIO ACTUAL. ESE 'MODERADO' AUMENTO SIGNIFICARIA
UN DESEMBOLSO ADICIONAL DE DOCE MIL MILLONES DE DOLARES QUE
TENDRAIA QUE PAGAR LOS APISES CONSUMIDORES...

"LA VERDAD ES QUE LA OPEP HA DECLARADO UNA GUEARRA ABIERTA
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CONTRA LA ECONOMIA DE TODOS. HACE MAS DE TREINTA ANOS ESTUVO
DE MODA UNA FRASE ACUNADA DURANTE LA SEGUANDA GUERRA MUNDIAL.
LA FASE, HACIENDO REFERENCIA A UN PUNADO DE AVIADORES, DECIA:
'NUNCA TANTOS DEBIERON TANTO A TAN POCOS.' PARODIANDO ESA
FRASE AHORA PODRIA DECIRSE, REFIRIENDOSE A UN PUNADO DE PAISES
PRODUCTORES DE PETROLEO, QUE NUNCA TANTOS FUERON EXPLOTADOS

POR TAN POCOS. "CUALQUIERA QUE SEA EL AUMENTO QUE LA OPEP FIJE...
NADIE PUEDE SER TAN OPTIMISTA O TAN INGUENO PARA CREER QUE SERA
EL ULTIMO AUMENTO. EN LA INCONTENIBLE CARRERA DE LA OPEP
NO PUEDE HABER GARANTIA QUE DENTRO DE ALGUN TIEMPO, EN OTRA
REUNION, EN OTRO LUGAR, LA OPEP NO VUELVA A DISCUTIR SOBRE EL
PORCENTAJE QUE PODRA FIJAR DE AUMENTO AL PRCIO DEL PETROLEO."

GRIFFITHS

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NNN

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